

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

HAROLD JAMES HILL,
Petitioner,

Civil No. 06-4670 (RHK/JJG)

v.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

ROBERT FENEIS,
Respondent.

The above-named Petitioner commenced this action by filing an application for habeas corpus relief under 28 U.S.C. § 2254. The matter has been referred to this Court for report and recommendation pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636 and Local Rule 72.1. For the reasons discussed below, it is recommended that this action be DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

On November 29, 2006, Petitioner filed a habeas corpus petition that presented claims pertaining to his incarceration by the Minnesota Department of Corrections. It was readily apparent to the Court, however, that Petitioner was not actually challenging the fact or duration of his confinement, but rather, he was challenging the conditions of his confinement. Because habeas corpus is not an appropriate remedy for a prisoner's "conditions of confinement" claims, the original petition was summarily dismissed without prejudice pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases In The United States District Courts. (See Order dated November 30, 2006; [Docket No. 2].)

Petitioner was granted leave to file an amended pleading, to be prepared and submitted as a non-habeas civil rights complaint. He was also directed to pay the filing fee for a non-habeas civil action, or else apply for leave to proceed in forma pauperis, ("IFP"), and pay the initial partial filing fee required by 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). The Court's order expressly

advised Petitioner that if he did not file an amended pleading, and pay his filing fee, (or satisfy the requirements for proceeding IFP), by December 29, 2006, he would be deemed to have abandoned this action, and it would be recommended that the action be dismissed pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b) for failure to prosecute.

The deadline for complying with the Court's prior order has now expired, and Petitioner has not filed a civil complaint, nor has he taken any action to resolve the filing fee matter. Indeed, Petitioner has not communicated with the Court at all since he filed his habeas corpus petition nearly two months ago. Therefore, it is now recommended, in accordance with the Court's prior order, that Petitioner be deemed to have abandoned this action, and that the action be dismissed without prejudice pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b). See also Link v. Wabash Railroad Co., 370 U.S. 626, 630-31 (1962) (recognizing that a federal court has the inherent authority to "manage [its] own affairs so as to achieve the orderly and expeditious disposition of cases").

RECOMMENDATION

Based upon the above, and upon all the records and proceedings herein,

IT IS HEREBY RECOMMENDED that:

This action be **DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE**.

Dated: January 26, 2007

s/Jeanne J. Graham

JEANNE J. GRAHAM
United States Magistrate Judge

Pursuant to D. Minn. LR 72.2(b), any party may object to this Report and Recommendation by filing and serving specific, written objections by February 14, 2007. A party may respond to the objections within ten days after service thereof. Any objections or responses filed under

this rule shall not exceed 3,500 words. A District Judge shall make a de novo determination of those portions to which objection is made. Failure to comply with this procedure shall operate as a forfeiture of the objecting party's right to seek review in the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.